

Prelim Bits 20-02-2019

International Intellectual Property Index

- The index was prepared by the US Chamber of Commerce's **Global Innovation Policy Center (GIPC)**.
- It ranks countries based on 45 indicators that are critical to an innovation-led economy supported by robust patent, trademark, copyright, and trade secrets protection.
- The Index analyses the IP climate in 50 global economies.
- The US, the UK, Sweden, France and Germany remained the top five economies on the intellectual property index in 2019.
- India ranks 36 in the IP Index
- India's has jumped from 44th position in 2018.
- According to the index report, the key problems in India include
 1. barriers to licensing and technology transfer
 2. strict registration requirements
 3. limited framework for the protection of bio-pharmaceutical IP right
 4. patentability requirements outside international standards

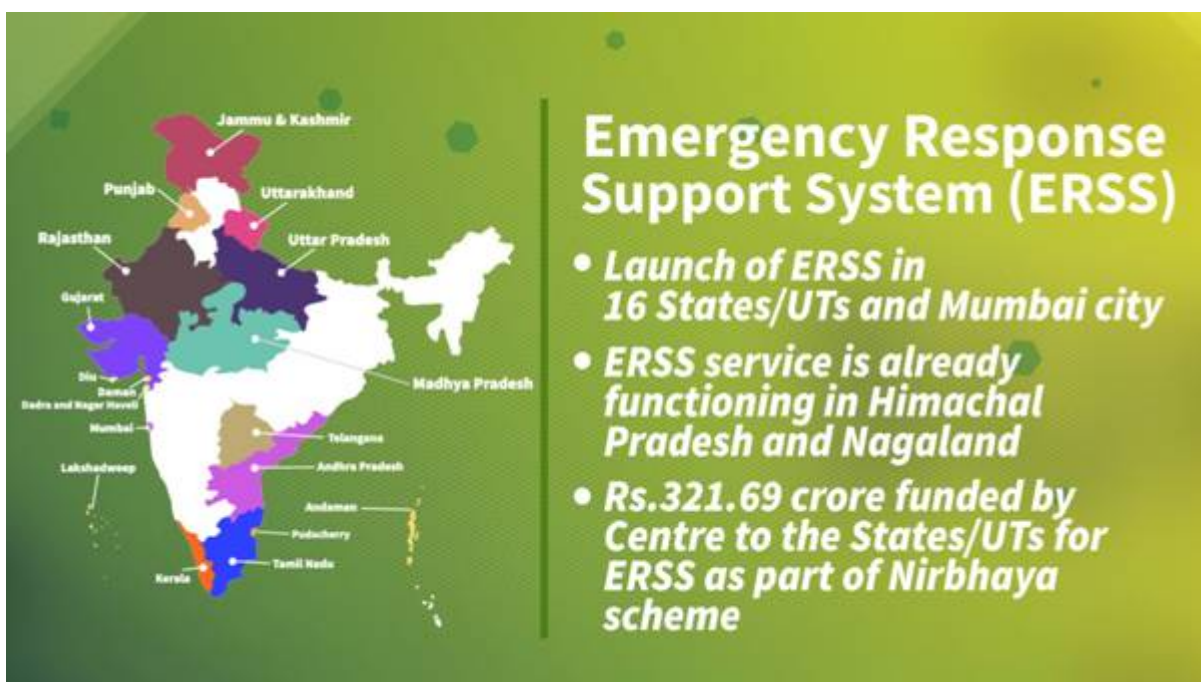
Samadhan

- The Union government has launched Samadhan portal to help workers and employers raise industrial disputes online.
- Samadhan stands for Software Application for Monitoring and Disposal, Handling of Industrial Disputes.
- It is a dedicated web portal to bring all stakeholders - government, industry, and labor - involved in industrial disputes on a single integrated platform.
- The bodies which help in resolving the disputes - office of chief labor commissioner (central), industrial relations division, and central government industrial tribunal (CGIT)- will be able to get the requests and send updates to workers and employers on this portal.
- It has been launched on a pilot basis for workers belonging to five states - Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Karnataka, Rajasthan, and Odisha.
- Under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, an industrial dispute is defined as any dispute or difference between employers and employees or amongst a group of workers or employers related to employment, termination, and condition of work, among others.

- The web portal will make the process of settling industrial disputes is simplified, standardized and streamlined.

Emergency Response Support System(ERSS)

- The Women Safety initiative of Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) was launched in 16 States/UTs and Mumbai city.
- Under ERSS a pan-India network of single emergency helpline number 112 was made operationalised.
- On the emergency number '112' immediate assistance can be sought by anyone in distress.
- The single emergency services number 112 will combine Police, Fire, Health and other help-lines through an Emergency Response Centre in the State.



Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences (ITSSO)

- Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences (ITSSO) and Safe City Implementation Monitoring Portal was also launched.
- It is meant for the law enforcement agencies in the country.
- The system is an online module available to law enforcement agencies at all levels - national, state, district and police station.
- It allows the state to undertake real-time monitoring and management for completion of investigation in rape cases.
- It would also strengthen the ability of states for analytics and prognosis for timely investigation and prosecution in rape cases.

Bramble Cay melomys

- Australia officially declared a Great Barrier Reef rodent called Bramble Cay melomys extinct recently.
- A Cay is a low-lying island on a coral reef.
- It became the first mammal believed to have been killed off by human-induced climate change.
- The rodent lived solely on a tiny sand island in the Torres Strait, near the coast of Papua New Guinea.



- The species has not been seen since 2009.
- A key factor in its disappearance was repeated ocean inundation of the cay over the last decade, which had resulted in dramatic habitat loss.
- The *Melomys rubicola* is considered the Great Barrier Reef's only endemic mammal species.
- It was first discovered on the cay in 1845 by Europeans who shot the large rat for sport.
- According to International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Australia has one of world's highest rates of animal extinction.

Great White Shark

- A major study decoded Great White Shark entire genome and found that it could hold new clues to the fight against cancer.
- The great white shark is also known as the great white, white shark or white pointer.
- It is one of the most powerful and dangerous predatory sharks in the world.
- They are a large shark and grow up to at least 20 feet long, or 6.1 meters.
- They are frequently centered in highly productive **temperate coastal**

waters.

- It the only known surviving species of its genus Carcharodon.
- According to IUCN, the species is classified as **vulnerable**.

Source: PIB, The Hindu, Business Standard

